

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-01 ITFE-05

COME-00 L-03 FMC-01 DOTE-00 /062 W

----- 123910

R 200816Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4672

COMUSNAV PHIL, SUBIC

CNO WASHDC

INFO CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMNAVMAIRIANNAS GUAM

NLSO SUBIC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 8476

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, RP, ID

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF PRIVATE VIETNAMESE REGISTERED SHIPS

REF: A. COMUSNAVPHIL MSG 111043Z JUN 75

B. CNO MSG 172328Z JUN 75

C. CINCPACFLT MSG 191834Z JUN 75

1. EMBASSY CONCURS GENERALLY IN APPROACH OUTLINED IN  
PARA 6 REF A. NEVERTHELESS, DIFFERENT ISSUES INVOLVED  
AND SPECIFIC COURSES OF ACTION NEEDED REQUIRE DIVISION  
OF VIETNAMESE REGISTERED SHIPS INTO FOLLOWING SIX  
CATEGORIES TO ILLUSTRATE THE SEVERAL DIFFERENT TYPES OF  
PROBLEMS.

2. CATEGORY 1 INCLUDES THREE SHIPS THAT DESIRE TO GO TO  
THIRD COUNTRY. THIS REQUIRES IMMEDIATE DECISION.  
UNDERSTAND OWNERSHIP CLAIMS ARE REASONABLY CLEAR. EMBASSY  
RECOMMENDS THAT SUBIC OFFICIALS NOTIFY PMLO IN WRITING  
THAT THESE SHIPS WITH CREW AND SOME REFUGEES WILL BE  
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DEPARTING BY A GIVEN DATE (TWO OR THREE DAYS HENCE)

UNLESS GOP OBJECTS.

3. CATEGORY 2 INCLUDES FOUR SHIPS THAT APPARENT OWNERS DESIRE TO SELL IN PHILIPPINES. WE INFORMED OWNERS HAVE CONTRACTED PHIL ATTORNEY AND BORKER IN MANILA AREA. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT SUBIC AUTHORITIES ENCOURAGE OWNERS TO SELL THROUGH BROKER, BUT SHIPS NOT BE RE-LEASED TO NEW OWNERS UNTIL SUBIC AUTHORITIES SATISFIED THAT BROKER HAS OBTAINED ALL REQUIRED CLARANCES FOR SUCH SALE FROM APPROPRIATE GOP AGENCIES. DO NOT BELIEVE NECESSARY FOR EMBASSY OR NAVY TO BE INVOLVED AT THIS STAGE IN SUCH CLEARANCES.

4. CATEGORY 3 CONTAINS TWO SHIPS THAT WERE ESCORTED FROM MANILA TO SUBIC BY PHIL COAST GUARD. SHIPS WERE BEACHED OUTSIDE SUBIC BASE AND HAVE BEEN STRIPPED. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE THESE SHIPS USG CONCERN AND NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN IN RELATION THERETO.

5. CATEGORY 4 CONTAINS ONE SHIP CLAIMED BY A PERSON RESIDING IN U.S. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS ALLEGED OWNER BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO EITHER SELL SHIP BY PROCEDURE INDICATED FOR CATEGORY 2 SHIPS OR PHYSICALLY TAKE POSSESSION. IF NOT ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN REASONABLE PERIOD, OWNER SHOULD BE INFORMED SHIP WILL BE TURNED OVER TO GOP.

6. CATEGORY 5 CONTAINS TWO SHIPS FOR WHICH NO ONE HAS CLAIMED TITLE. ONE APPARENTLY WAS OWNED BY THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT AND BOTH SHIPS ARE DEEMED TO BE OF SOME VALUE. WHILE EMBASSY RECOGNIZES POLITICAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED BELIEVE SUBIC AUTHORITIES SHOULD, AT THIS STAGE, ATTEMPT THROUGH PMLO TO HAVE GOP TAKE PHYSICAL POSSESSION OF SHIPS. IF THIS APPROACH FAILS TO PRODUCE RESPONSE, EMBASSY WILL CONSIDER OTHER APPROACHES AT DFA LEVEL.

7. CATEGORY 6 CONTAINS ONE SHIP IN WHICH REFUGEES ARE STILL ABOARD AND FOR WHICH AT PRESENT TIME NEITHER GOP NOR USG CLAIM RESPONSIBILITY. SHIP HAS APPARENTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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BEEN SHOLD BY ALLEGED OWNER TO FILIPINO. HOWEVER UNTIL REFUGEE PROBLEM FULLY RESOLVED AND FURTHER INFO ON SHIP IS OBTAINED, EMBASSY BELIVES NO U.S. ACTION IS APPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME.

8. IN CONSIDERING ABOVE CATEGORIES, EMBASSY HAS REFLECTED ON THOSE IN WHICH DIRECT APPROACH TO DFA AT THIS TIME MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE. GENERALLY. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE DFA WOULD BE RESPONSIVE OR INTERESTED IN

ACHIEVING QUICK SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEM. IT IS OUR  
IMPRESSION THAT GOP MERELY WISHES PROBLEM TO GO AWAY.  
HANDLING AT LOCAL OR COMMERCIAL LEVELS MAY MEET GOP  
DESIRE IN THIS REGARD. PMLO CERTAINLY AWARE OF ABOVE  
SHIPS AND HAS HAD ADEQUATE TIME TO SPECIFY GOP DESIRES,  
BUT SO FAR HAS IGNORED PROBLEM. EMBASSY FULLY RECOGNIZES  
THAT QUESTION OF CATEGORY 5 SHIPS MAY REMAIN UNRESOLVED  
BUT BELIEVE OUTLINED PROCEDURES CAN SOLVE ISSUES  
RELATING TO MAJORITY OF SHIPS.

9. REQUEST APPROVAL THIS COURSE OF ACTION. PURNESS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHIP REGISTRY, SALES, SHIP DETENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** DISPOSITION OF PRIVATE VIETNAMESE REGISTERED SHIPS  
**TAGS:** EWWT, RP, ID, VS  
**To:** STATE CNO WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
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